

**Coolidge IC Drain  
Meeting Minutes  
Gladwin County Board of Commissioners Room  
June 22, 2022**

Meeting called to order by Brady Harrington at 10:04am.

Present: Brady Harrington, Chair, MDAR, Terry Walters, Gladwin County Drain Commissioner, Joe Sova Midland County Drain Commissioner

Also Present: Lucy Zeestraten, Gladwin County Deputy Drain Commissioner, Norma Stewart Midland County Deputy Drain Commissioner, Brittney Nicole form Fahey Schultz, Luke O'Brien Spice Group

Motion by Joe Sova to elect Gladwin County as Secretary, Second by Terry Walters. All in favor M/C.

Motion to approve agenda by Joe Sova. Seconded by Terry Walters. All in favor

Brandy explains there is an existing Coolidge Drain that was established under Chapters 3 & 4 of the Drain Code. Which is for County Drains. Terry Walters at this time is revising his drainage district's boundaries to make sure the proper people pay on the proper drain. Every time there is a drain established there is an assessment district that established with that drain. In this case when reviewing the district, it has been found that Midland County contributes water to the drain. Drain code is user pays law. In the case there is Maintenance or improvement on the drain, those people and entities, Townships, Villages etc. within the drainage district boundary pay for the maintenance improvement in the drain. Due to this established as a County Drain, Terry has no ability to assess any other properties other than in Gladwin County. Midland County does contribute to water to the drain. Terry has asked to hold this hearing to add Midland County and chance this from a county drain under chapters 3 & 4 from the drain code to intercounty drain under chapters 5 & 6 from the drain code. If it is to convert, then that would allow the properties in Midland County to be assessed that contribute to the drain. This hearing is to hear any objection to the adding Midland County to the drainage district. This does not set the boundaries of the drainage district itself. This will be done on a day of review that will be held in each drain commissioner's office in the event that Midland County is added to the drainage district today. Brandy turns it over to Luke O'Brien.

Luke O'Brien has a power point presentation. Luke explains the historical drainage district that was established in 1914. Luke goes on to explain what a drainage district is. All lands that contribute storm water to the drain. Are comprised of the district. The district serves as the assessment district for any work that's done on the drain. They view the lands to see which lands contribute water directly, or side ditches, tributary water courses that outlet into the drain. The steps that they do to determine a drainage district is to review LiDAR information data. This is information in both counties and available for the whole state of Michigan. This is highly accurate. It is done with an airplane. Was done within 5 years so they are working with the most recent data. This is the data they use to help map out the watershed bounty. They also use existing drainage maps, arial photos and then field review. Luke goes on to explain how the historic drainage district was established. Luke shows them with the LiDAR showing that Midland County does contribute water to the drain and their recommendation is adding Midland County to the drainage district. Luke showed a map that shows the recommended district in Midland County. The map shows it goes into Midland County at the border by Edenville Twp. Luke explains the LiDAR data. He explains the elevations and what the different colors mean. White and grays are the higher elevation. As the elevation goes down it goes brown to red, orange to yellow, the runoff flows to the drain. The proposed district includes about 1064 acres in Gladwin County and about 278 in Midland County.

Brandy states that there is not a project projected at this time. We are not formally setting the drainage district that Luke recommended. We will have a day of review where people can argue their boundary line with their drain commissioner. Notice will be sent to everyone in the proposed drainage district.

**Public Comment**

James Lambert lives at 660 Pine Trail, Beaverton. The farthest east from the drain. He is also on the lake. How do you

determine where a drain starts and where are you going to assess and where are going to stop? Brady answered when a drain is established a survey is done on the drain. This establishes the beginning point and an end point of the drain. Those records are kept in the drain commissioner's office. The boundary that Luke showed is basically the typology of land that would contribute water to the drain. James states that right in front of his home the drain or the lake is 150ft wide. I don't think you are going to go in and clean that. Unless you do it right now. When the water comes back you will be in 6ft deep and 150ft wide. How do you go about doing it? I don't want to be assessed for the drain cleaning. I am already being assessed for the lake. I don't think its fair. I understand this isn't the point of this hearing, but I have to start somewhere. I will be assessed to death. Luke states what Brady said and commented on the district boundary. Luke continued that they were getting into the next step which is talking about the assessment roll. There are 2 different things. The drainage district which determines land that contribute to drain and the assessment roll that goes with the district. What you are arguing is benefit related to the assessment roll and that is something we can talk about later. Luke let him know that once we get into more about setting the assessment roll that will be addressed. James has no objection to adding Midland into the drainage district. Terry let James know we will work with him.

Public comment closed.

Motion to add Midland County to the Coolidge Drain drainage district by Joe Sova. Seconded by Terry Walters. All in favor m/c

Do you accept the preliminary drainage district boundaries for proposes of the Day of Reviews to argue the district lines motion by Terry Walters. Seconded Joe Sova. All in favor m/c

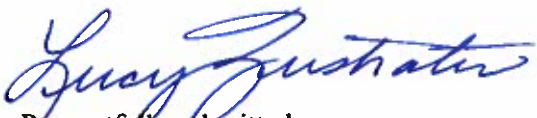
Apportionment recommendations from Luke are 2 different types of factors. There 79 acres in Gladwin and 21 acres in Midland. Length of use factor and the proximity factor. The proximity factor would be to give a reduction to lands that are further away from the drain which includes the areas we are adding. Luke set it in 3 zones for length of use. The people at the top of the drain that use it the more pay the most an as you work downstream, they get a slight reduction so the people that use the short portion of the drain at the outlet get a reduced benefit factor. 81 ½% Gladwin and 18 ½ Midland. Joe states its mostly state land. Brady states this is attentive, and, in the advent, there is a project it can be revisited. Brady likes round numbers, so he suggests 79% to 82% Gladwin. Joe states that they have been looking more at the zone factor when the drain is more elongated because it changes when you are further away. Joe suggested 81% Gladwin and 19% Midland. Terry state ok. Motion to go with the Zone factor 81% Gladwin and 19% Midland by Joe Sova. Seconded by Terry Walters. All in favor m/c

Joe Sove and Terry Walters sign the order adding Midland County to the drainage district and sets the apportionments between counties.

No invoices to be approved.

Next meeting date will be Day of Review. Gladwin DOR is August 4<sup>th</sup>. Midland DOR August 9<sup>th</sup>. Drainage board meeting August 16<sup>th</sup> at 10am at the Gladwin County Commissioners Room.

Motion to adjourned by Terry Walters, seconded by Joe Sova. All in favor. M/C  
Meeting adjourned at 10:28 am.



Respectfully submitted  
Lucy Zeestraten, Secretary